



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC
20250-0260

Poultry Programs

June 2, 2004

All Poultry and Egg Suppliers

NOTICE TO THE TRADE – June 2004

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Poultry Programs, Commodity Procurement Branch is requesting feedback from contractors participating in our purchase programs to provide updated information for the Food and Nutrition Service's (FNS) commodity fact sheets.

Commodity fact sheets are used by school food service personnel and administrators of institutions to make the best use of donated foods. The sheets list a basic description of the USDA product, pack size and yield, storage information, and nutritional facts such as the total number of calories, vitamin levels, fat and sodium contents, etc. The information simplifies ordering and serves as a ready reference for the nutrient content of USDA commodities.

As announced at our industry conference, we are initiating a formal review and are soliciting comments on FNS' fact sheets. We are particularly interested in changes that deal with the nutritional value of the commodities. Additional input related to our commodities would also be greatly appreciated.

The fact sheets may be accessed at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/facts/schfacts/cats.htm>.

Please submit your comments via fax (202/720-5871) by June 11. This will enable us to compile the information for discussion with FNS.

I am confident that, with your assistance, we can make the commodity purchase program more efficient and provide up-to-date, reliable information to our recipients.

Dennis J. Pearson, Chief
Commodity Procurement Branch